

NEWS RELEASE



STATE OF ALABAMA
Department of Industrial
Relations
News For Immediate Release
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Hillsboro Man Charged for Violating Unemployment Compensation Law

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, October 6, 2005 Melvin Jackson, of Hillsboro, Alabama, was tried in the Lawrence County Circuit Court on September 23, 2005. He was charged with Theft of Property in the 3rd Degree for violating the Alabama Unemployment Compensation Law for making false statements in claims for unemployment benefits. An investigation by the Industrial Relations Benefit Payment Control Section determined that Jackson received a total of \$3,780 in unemployment benefits to which he was not entitled.

“The Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, in cooperation with local District Attorney offices, is continuing to actively pursue indictments and arrests of those who allegedly draw unemployment compensation benefits illegally,” says Phyllis Kennedy, Industrial Relations director. “The successful prosecution of these cases helps to maintain the integrity of the state's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund, used to pay benefits to citizens who are truly qualified to receive the money. It also serves as a deterrent to potential violators of the Alabama Unemployment Compensation Law.”

Jackson was found guilty and sentenced to three consecutive one year sentences and was also required to repay the amount of benefits received illegally.

Suspected unemployment compensation fraud may be reported to Industrial Relations through the toll-free telephone number, 1-800-392-8019.

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on DIR visit the Web site: <http://dir.alabama.gov/>.